MARVEL

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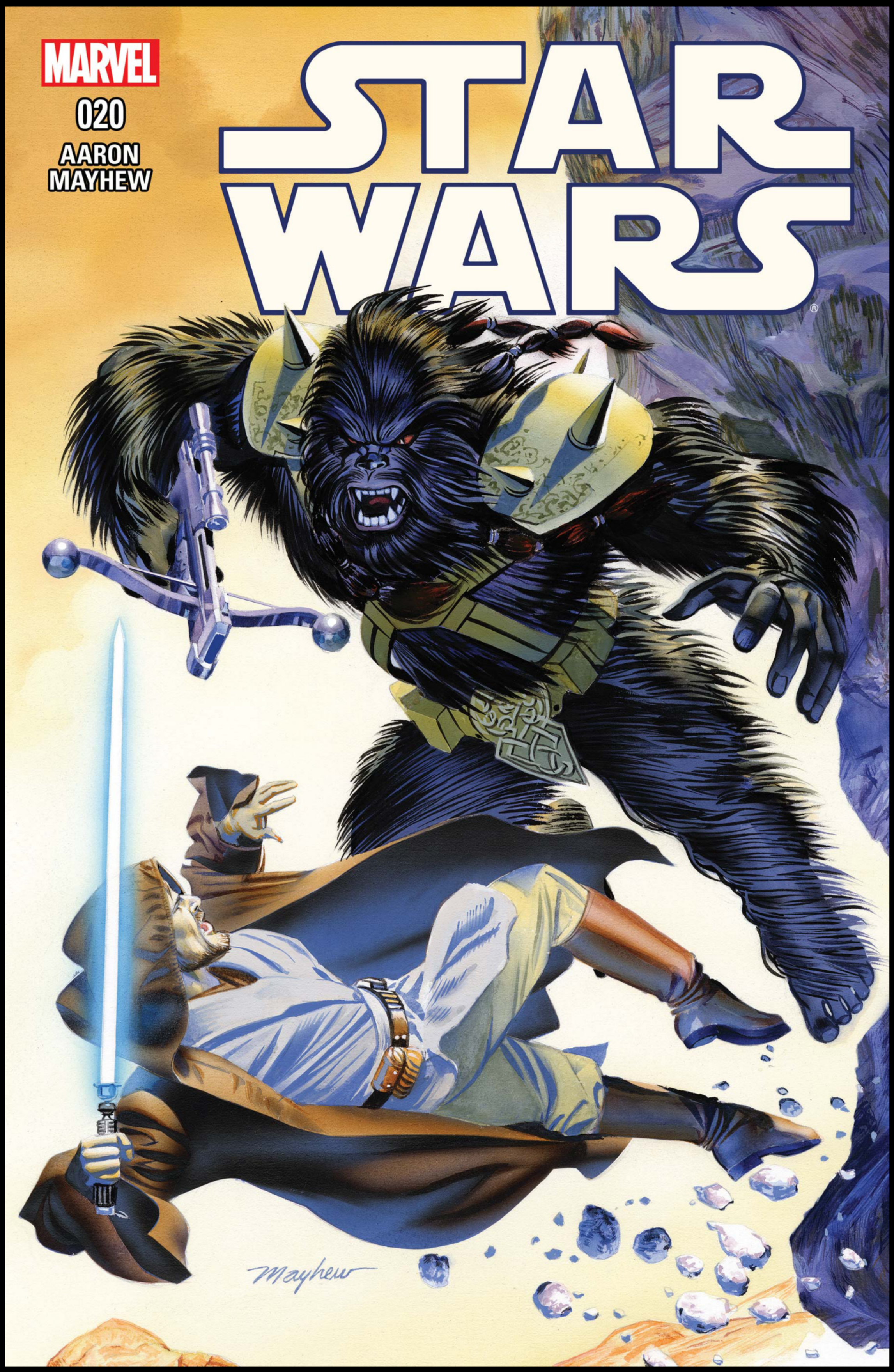
AARON MAYHEW

STAR WARS®



FROM THE JOURNALS OF
OLD BEN KENOBI

WHILE SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS IN HIS
QUEST TO BECOME A JEDI,
LUKE SKYWALKER HAS UNCOVERED A
JOURNAL WRITTEN BY JEDI MASTER
OBI-WAN KENOBI. THE JOURNAL DETAILS
KENOBI'S ADVENTURES WHILE WATCHING
OVER YOUNG LUKE ON TATOOINE,
INCLUDING WHEN JABBA THE HUTT
HIRED THE WOOKIEE BLACK KRRSANTAN TO HUNT
OBI-WAN DOWN FOR DEFEATING HIS THUGS
DURING THE GREAT DROUGHT.
WHAT FOLLOWS IS AN EXCERPT
FROM THAT JOURNAL.

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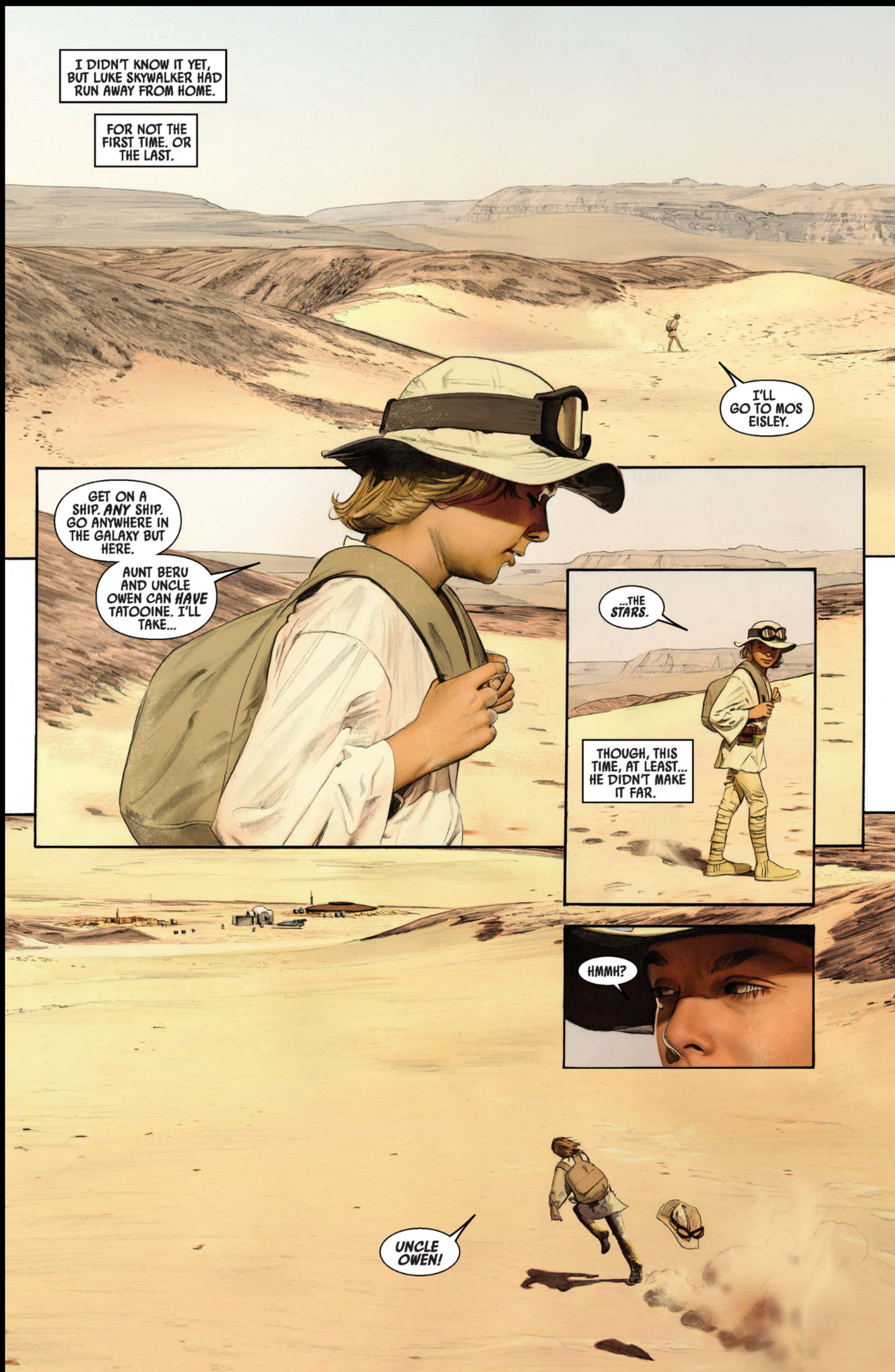
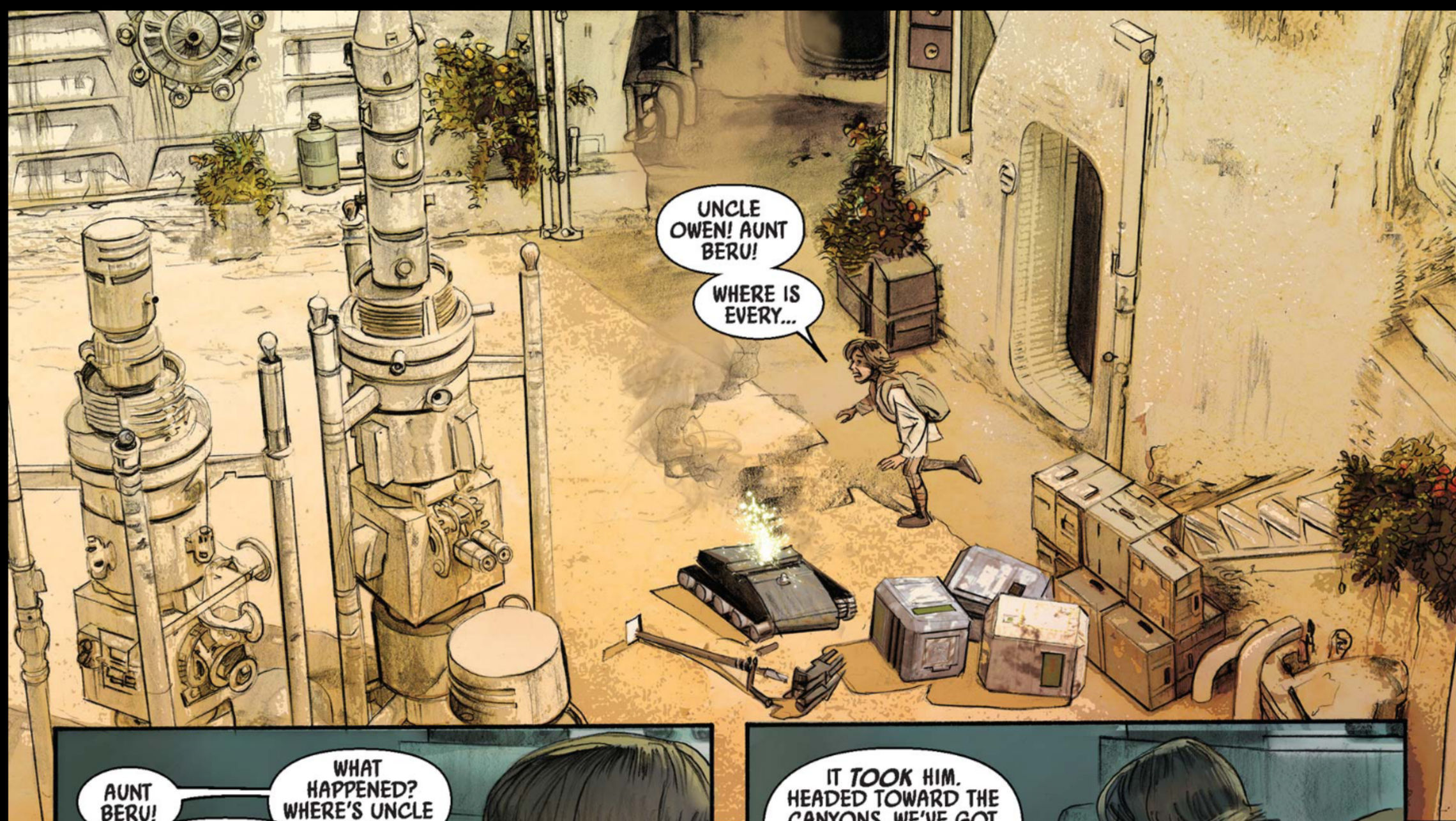
THIS IS WHERE IT HAPPENED.
ABOUT A YEAR AGO. DURING THE GREAT DROUGHT.
FIVE OF JABBA'S SALTIEST WARRIORS WERE TAKEN DOWN RIGHT HERE.
COLD-BLOODED KILLERS BEATEN SENSELESS. HARDENED WAR DROIDS SMASHED WITH GIANT ROCKS.
YET NO ONE SAW WHO DID IT. NO ONE SAW A THING.
LEAST, THAT'S WHAT THEY SCREAMED AS JABBA FED THEM TO THE RANCOR. AND WE NEVER FOUND ANY TRACE OF...
BLACK KRRSANTAN? HELLO?
IS HE EVEN--
WWWWWRRGGHH!
ANY IDEA WHAT THAT MEANS?
IT MEANS I SURE WOULDN'T WANNA BE WHOEVER HE GETS HIS HANDS ON OUT HERE.

LUKE?
LUKE, LISTEN, I...
I GOT A FEW PARTS AT TOSCHE STATION. THEY'RE NOT EXACTLY IN THE BEST SHAPE, BUT I THOUGHT, MAYBE...
...WE COULD DO SOME WORK ON THAT BUSTED SKYHOPPER... TOGETHER...AND HOPEFULLY GET IT...WELL, I JUST...
LUKE... I'M REALLY SORRY, OKAY? I...
LUKE?
BERU, HAVE YOU SEEN...
HHRRRMMH!


I DIDN'T KNOW IT YET, BUT LUKE SKYWALKER HAD RUN AWAY FROM HOME.
FOR NOT THE FIRST TIME. OR THE LAST.
I'LL GO TO MOS EISLEY.
GET ON A SHIP. ANY SHIP. GO ANYWHERE IN THE GALAXY BUT HERE.
AUNT BERU AND UNCLE OWEN CAN HAVE TATOOINE. I'LL TAKE...
...THE STARS.
THOUGH, THIS TIME, AT LEAST... HE DIDN'T MAKE IT FAR.
HMMH?
UNCLE OWEN!


UNCLE OWEN! AUNT BERU!
WHERE IS EVERY...

AUNT BERU!
WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE'S UNCLE OWEN?
LUKE...YOU'VE GOT TO GET AWAY FROM HERE...

IT *TOOK* HIM. HEADED TOWARD THE CANYONS. WE'VE GOT TO FIND HELP. GET THE OTHER FARMERS. GET THE...
WHAT TOOK HIM?

BIG. COVERED IN FUR. STRONG.
LUKE, YOU LOCK YOURSELF IN THE MAINTENANCE BAY. DON'T COME OUT UNTIL YOU HEAR MY VOICE. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

THE MAINTENANCE BAY...

AAAAAAARRRGGGHHH!
RRRROOOOGGGHH!
GURRRRRHH!
I...I DON'T UNDERSTAND...I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT...WHY ARE YOU...
RRRRRRROOOGGGHH!
WAIT, PLEASE... I CAN'T ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS, I DON'T SPEAK--
HE'S NOT ASKING YOU ANY QUESTIONS.

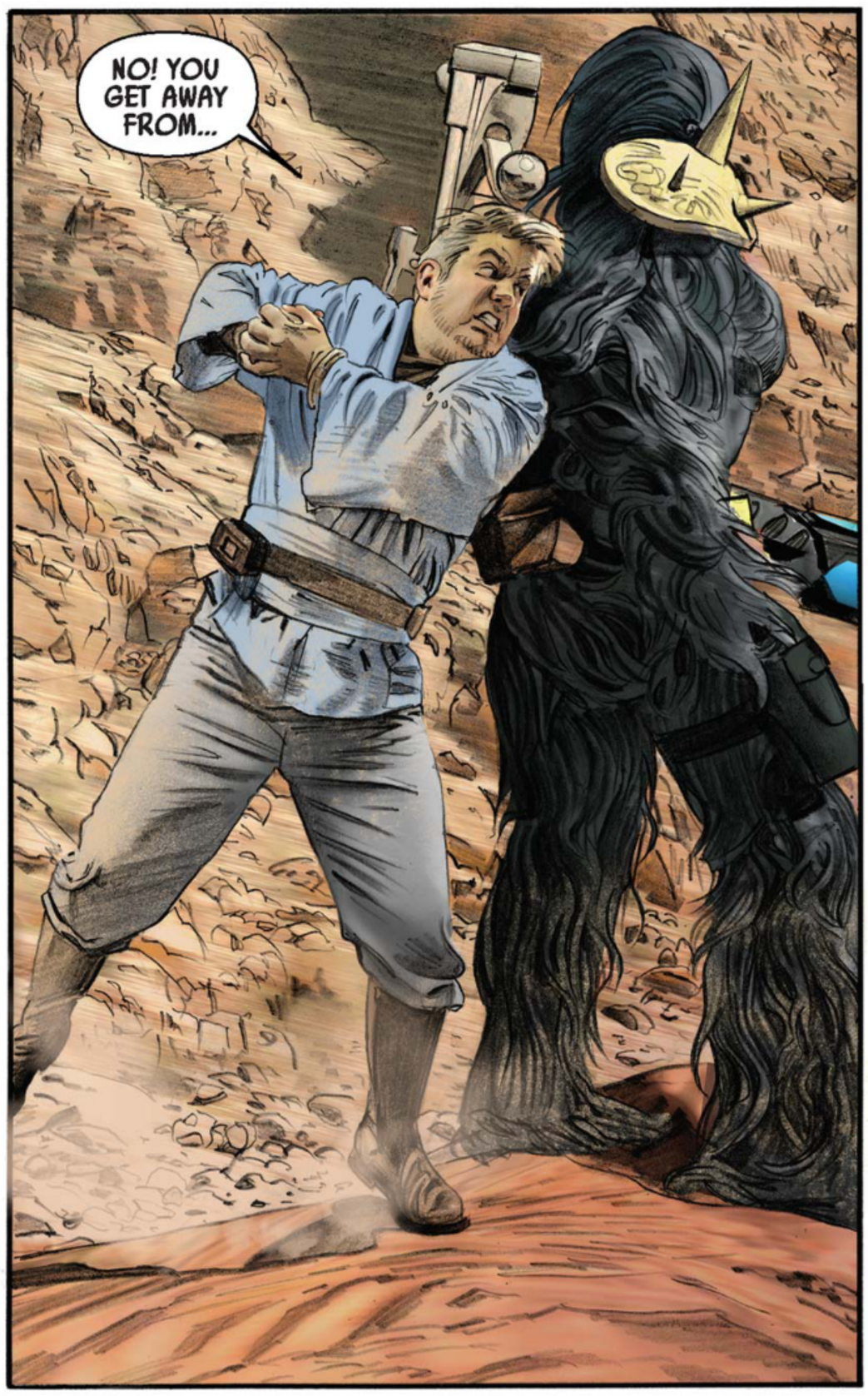
HE JUST WANTED YOU TO SCREAM.
I WAS MEDITATING AMONG THE BANTHAS IN THE DUNE SEA WHEN I FELT THE DISTURBANCE IN THE FORCE.
ATOP THE CLIFF, I TRIED TO SLOW MY BREATHING, TO HIDE HOW WINDED I WAS FROM THE CLIMB.
KENOBI!
RRRGGHH?
THERE WAS A TIGHTNESS IN MY GUTS THAT I HADN'T FELT IN YEARS.
FEAR.
APPARENTLY ACHES AND PAINS OF THE BODY WEREN'T THE ONLY THINGS THAT WORSENED WITH AGE.

YOU'RE BLACK KRRSANTAN. THE INFAMOUS WOOKIEE BOUNTY HUNTER. I'VE HEARD OF YOU.
I KNOW WHY YOU WERE FORCED TO LEAVE KASHYYYK. AND HOW YOU'VE DISGRACED YOUR PEOPLE EVER SINCE.
JABBA HIRED YOU, DIDN'T HE?
WELL, HERE I AM, BOUNTY HUNTER.
I'M THE MAN YOU'RE LOOKING FOR.
OR AM I.
YOU WILL LEAVE THIS PLACE AT--

RRRRWWWWH!
HUUH!
I WAS REALLY HOPING THAT WAS GOING TO WORK.
BEN!
AND THAT I WOULDN'T EVEN NEED THE LIGHTSABER. THE DANGERS THAT WOULD COME FROM OUTING MYSELF AS A JEDI ON TATOOINE WERE SO GREAT.
I DIDN'T CARE WHAT HAPPENED TO ME, BUT I HAD TO MAKE SURE THAT NO HARM WOULD EVER COME TO...
AAAARRRRGH!

THE YEARS HAD MADE ME A FOOL.
HGGHK!
A VERY DEAD FOOL.
RRRRRRRRRROOORR!

GGH!
NO. NOT DEAD YET.
RRRRRRRRRGH!
I WAS WORTH MORE ALIVE, HE SAID. SO THAT JABBA COULD WATCH ME SUFFER.
TERRIFIC. THERE'S SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO.
RRRWWWWHHH!
AAAAAARRRGHHH!


NO! YOU GET AWAY FROM...

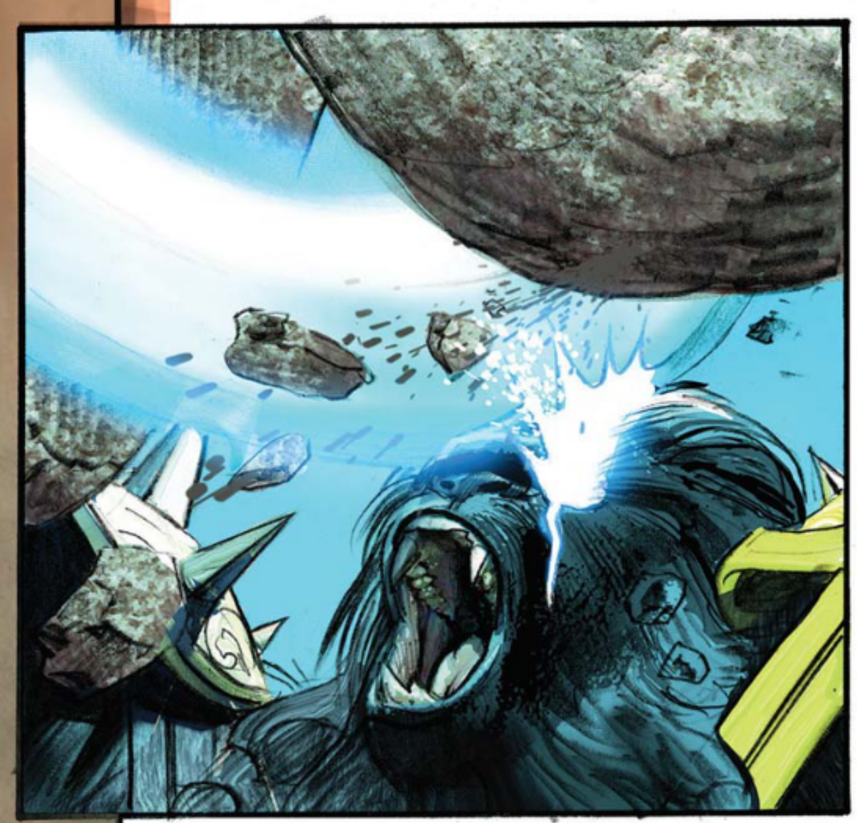
...FROM... UH...
OWEN... RUN, IT'S ME HE WANTS. RUN BEFORE HE...
OWEN LARS AND I MAY HAVE HAD OUR DIFFERENCES OVER THE YEARS, BUT THE MAN WAS NO COWARD.
TATOOINE DID NOT ABIDE COWARDS.

IT TURNED THEM TO ASH.
UGGH!
OWEN!

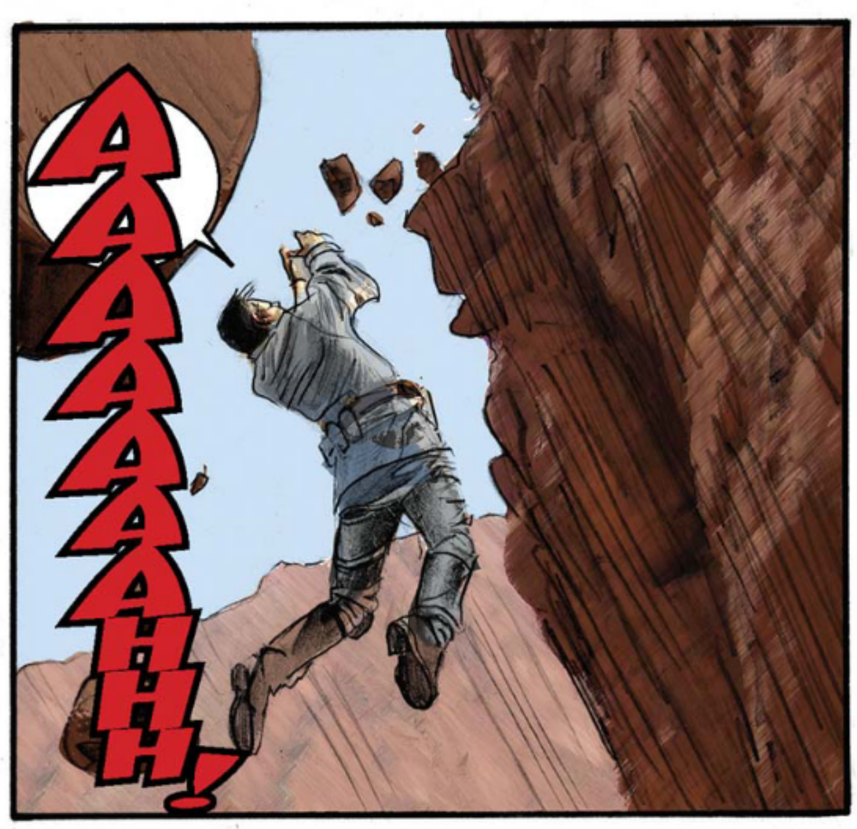
PLEASE... GUIDE MY HAND, MASTER QUI-GON.
WWWWGGH!

RRRRGGHH!
HHHRRRH!
OWEN! HOLD ON! I'LL GET YOU...

I MIGHT HAVE BLINDED HIM WITH SOME DUST IN HIS EYES, BUT EVEN A HALF-BLIND WOOKIEE WAS STILL ENOUGH WOOKIEE TO MAKE ME PLENTY DEAD.
THE ONLY QUESTION WAS...
RRRROOORRRR!
...WAS I STILL ENOUGH OF A JEDI TO STOP HIM?
WWWHOOORRRR!



GAAAGGH!
OH, NO! IT'S...!


AAAAAAHH!

HUH?
HOW AM I NOT...

GUGGH!

DON'T JUST...FLOAT THERE.
GRAB SOMETHING!

BEN, I CAN'T REACH!

BEN!
HRRGGGH.

WWRRRRGHH!

IN THAT MOMENT...I COULD FEEL THE FORCE FLOWING THROUGH ALL THINGS.
OWEN, YOU HAVE TO...

THROUGH THE BANTHAS, LOWING IN THE DISTANCE. THROUGH THE WOMP RATS HIDING IN THEIR HOLES.
ALMOST...

THROUGH THE WOOKIEE WHO WAS TRYING SO DESPERATELY TO KILL ME.
UGGH!

THROUGH MY OWN WEARY FLESH.
ALMOST GOT...

THROUGH THE PEOPLE I COULD NOT KEEP FROM DANGER.
NO.
OWEN, I'M...

THROUGH THE MAN I COULD NOT SAVE FROM FALLING.
NOOOO!

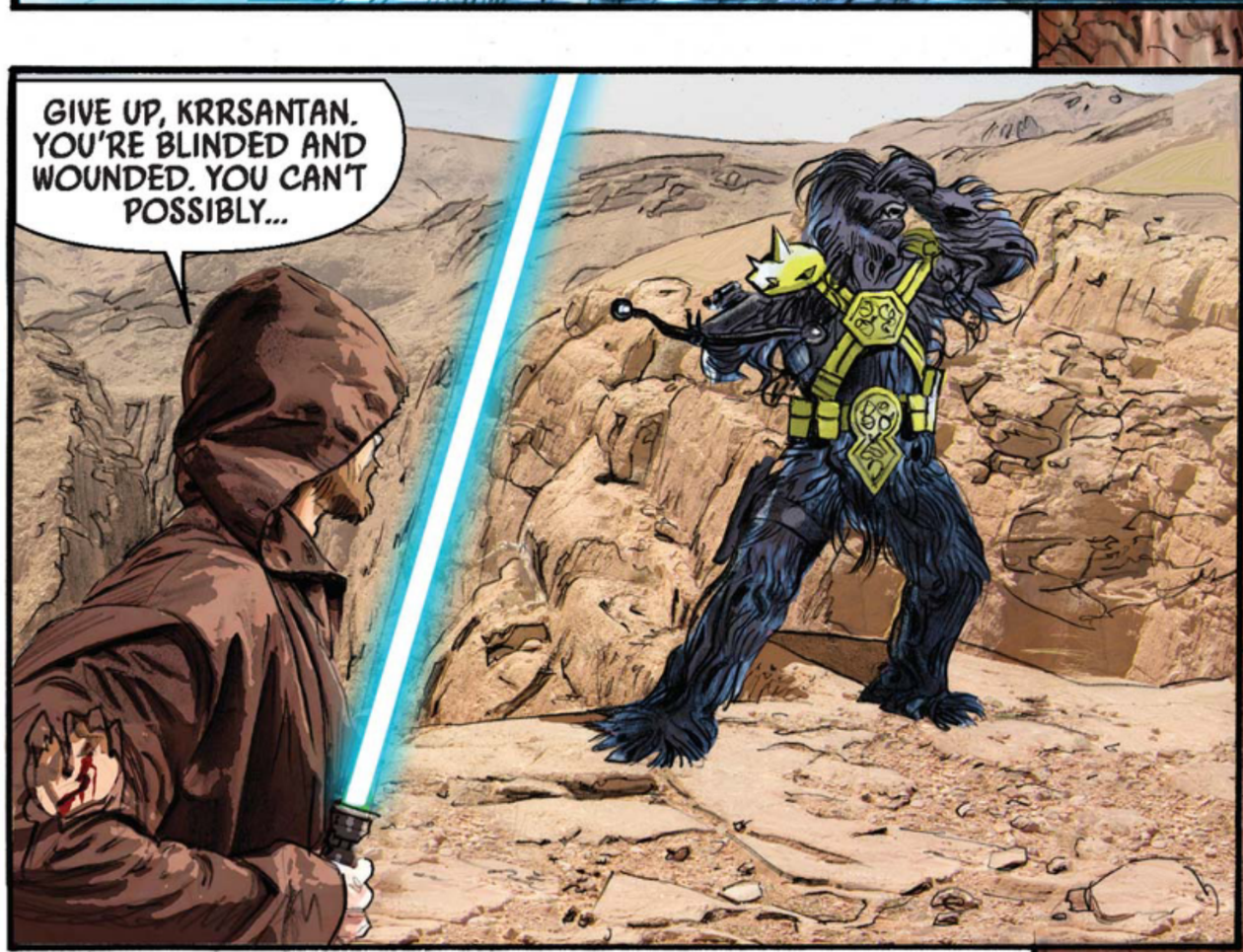
HHG!
THROUGH THE BOY WHO WOULD SOMEDAY SAVE US ALL.
HANG ON, UNCLE OWEN!

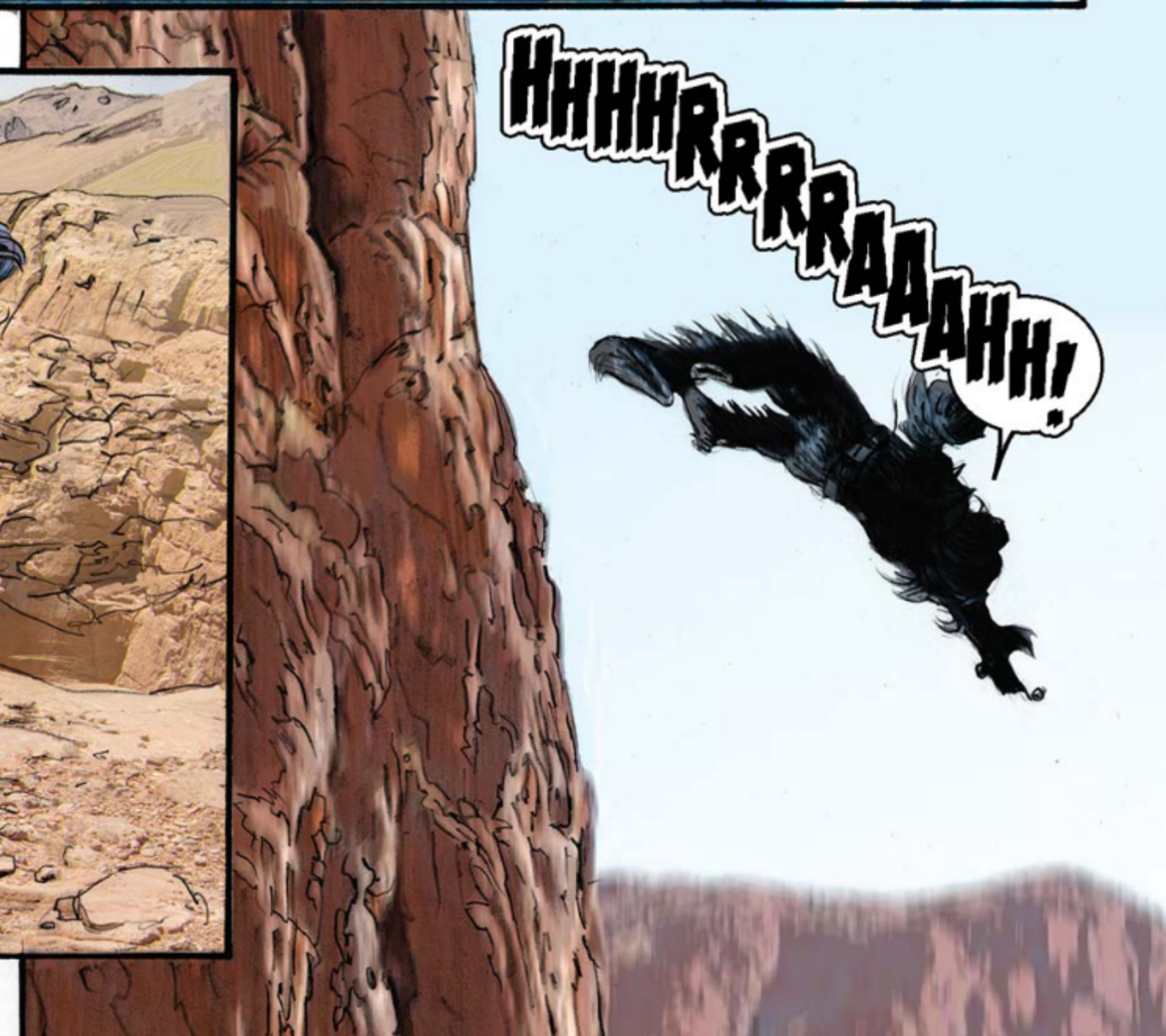
NEXT TIME, LUKE...I SUGGEST NOT CUTTING IT QUITE SO CLOSE.

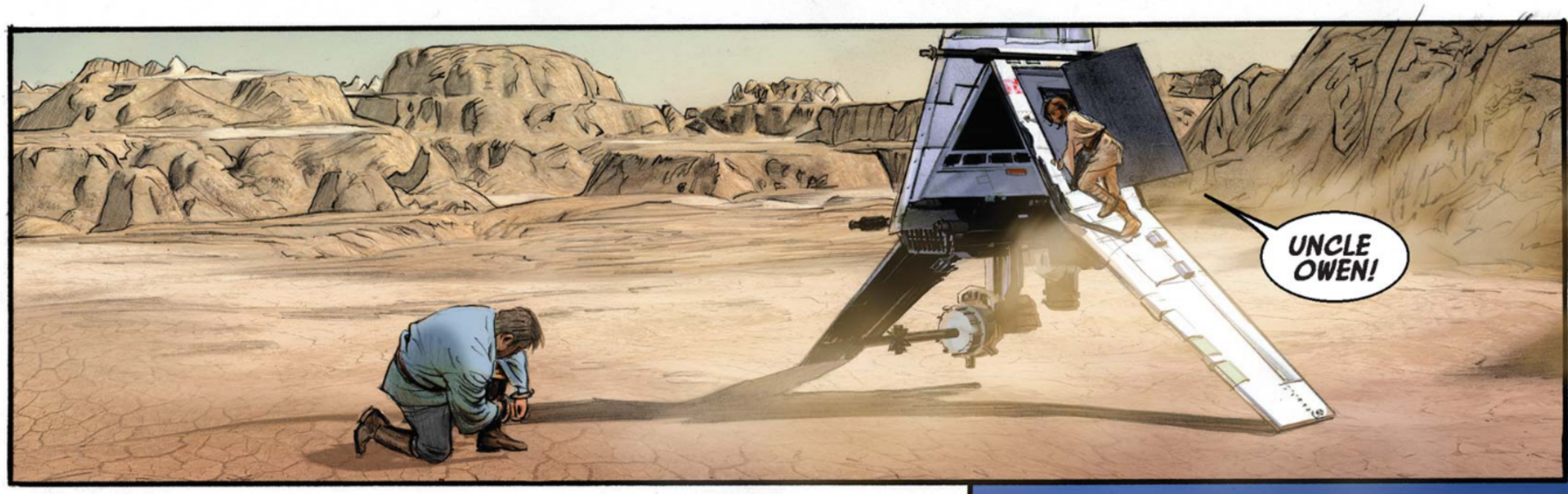
WWWWOOOR!
BEFORE WE FINISH HERE, KRRSANTAN, I WANT YOU TO KNOW...

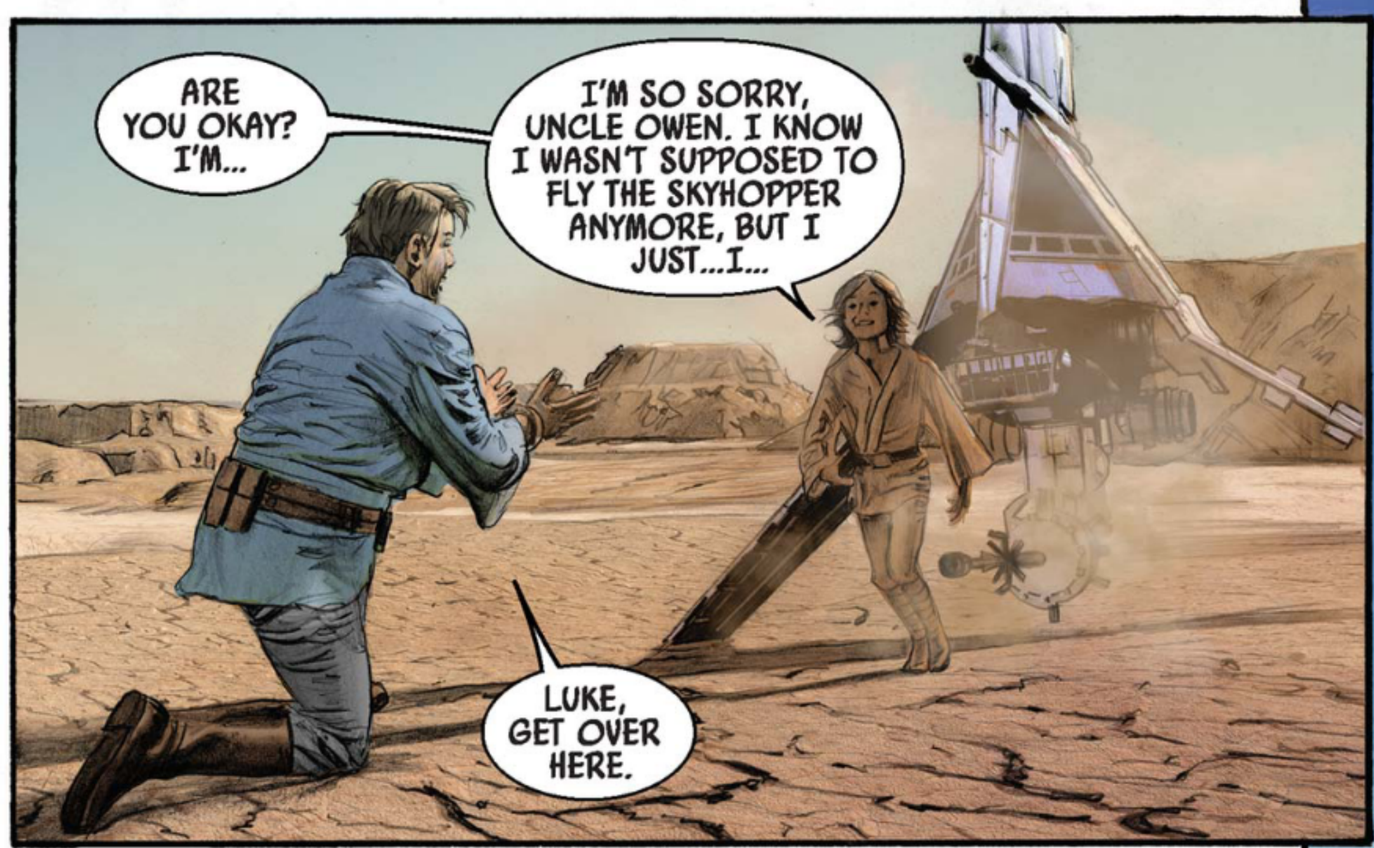
...YOU ARE WITHOUT A DOUBT THE *RUDEST* WOOKIEE I HAVE EVER MET.

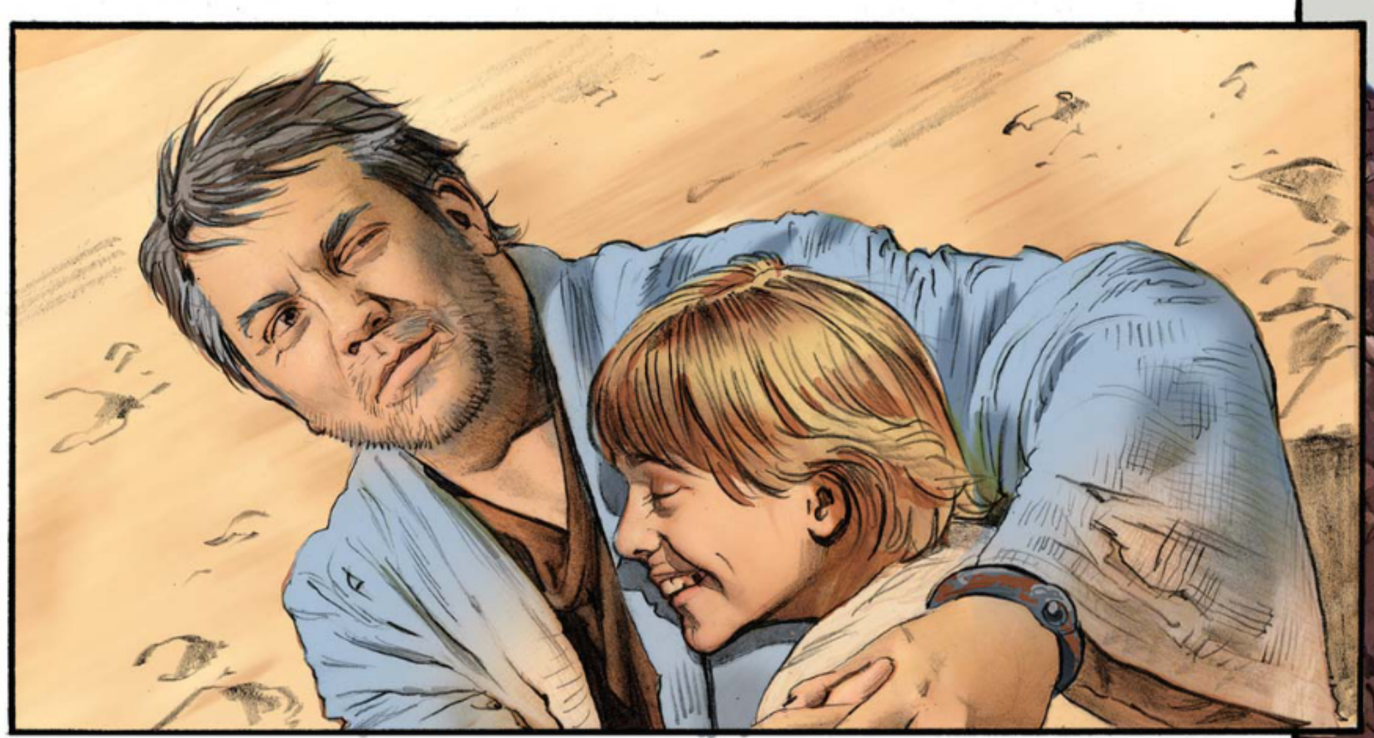
WWWRROOOOOWW!


GIVE UP, KRRSANTAN. YOU'RE BLINDED AND WOUNDED. YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY...


HHHHRRRRAAAHH!


UNCLE OWEN!


ARE YOU OKAY? I'M...
I'M SO SORRY, UNCLE OWEN. I KNOW I WASN'T SUPPOSED TO FLY THE SKYHOPPER ANYMORE, BUT I JUST...I...
LUKE, GET OVER HERE.



I SEARCHED FOR KRRSANTAN AMONG THE ROCKS BUT FOUND NO BODY. THEY BREED THEM TOUGH ON KASHYYYK.
HE HAD FLED OFF-WORLD, IT WAS SAID. JABBA WAS INCENSED, OF COURSE, FEELING HE'D BEEN BETRAYED BY THE BOUNTY HUNTER.
IT WOULD BE A LONG TIME BEFORE KRRSANTAN WAS WELCOME ON TATOOINE AGAIN.
NOT A WORD WAS SPOKEN BETWEEN OWEN AND I.
I WAS JUST HAPPY TO SEE HIM SAFELY RETURNED TO HIS FAMILY.
JUST AS I RETURNED TO *MINE*.
HELLO, NARA, YOU'RE LOOKING WELL TODAY.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, DOLO? WHY SO SAD?
LIFE CARRIED ON. MUCH AS IT ALWAYS HAD.
IN THIS HARSH AND RUGGED PLACE, WHERE ALL COULD SEEM HOPELESS, BUT WHERE SOMETIMES, INEXPLICABLY...

...NEW HOPES WERE FORGED.
IN BLOOD AND FIRE AND SAND.
AND SKY.